PERIODICO EN ESPAÑOL ADENTRO

CHALLENGE

FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM · LUCHE POR EL COMUNISMO · PLP

THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER OF PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY

volume 48 no.20 October 12, 2016 suggested donation $1

Racist Murders by Police Means REBEL

Charlotte rebels after kkkop Brentley Vinson murders 43-year-old Keith Lamont Scott

BROOKLYN, September 24—Once again workers have turned up the level of class struggle in response to racist police murder. In Charlotte and Tulsa and in cities across the U.S., workers are fighting back against the latest racist murders by the bosses' police and gaining confidence that the working class can unite and take on the ruling class.

In Tulsa, hundred of workers and students marched on Police Headquarters forcing the Tulsa bosses to indict killer cop Betty Shelby who murdered Terence Crutcher. In Charlotte NC, thousands of Black, white, Latin and Asian workers rebelled against the bosses after the murder of Keith Lamont Scott.

Workers in Charlotte defied the bosses police and National Guard, shutting down the business center where brave workers have taken the streets night after night in the face of tear gas and rubber bullets used against them, even after one of the protestors was killed, likely by one of those rubber bullets. As the Charlotte ruling class declared a State of Emergency and tried to enact a midnight curfew on the third day of the rebellion, workers took over streets and defied the 12 AM deadline, holding their ground into the early morning hours.

Solidarity Rally for Charlotte, Tulsa

In Brooklyn, "No Justice No Peace, No Racist Police" rang out on the streets of Flatbush as a spirited group led by PLP distributed almost 400 CHALLENGES and took turns making speeches on the bullhorn and leading chants in unity with the fight back in Charlotte and Tulsa against the latest police murders.

Family members of two different women murdered by the NYPD, took turns chanting and speaking on the bullhorn. These women have been leading the fight against the KKKops in NYC since Shantel Davis and Kyam Livingston were murdered by the police four years ago and three years ago respectively. Liberal NYC mayor de Blasio's administration hasn't provided anything close to justice for these women and their loved ones. We have learned and re-learned that continuing to fight back is the only way we will ever end this racist, capitalist system and all its horrendous attacks against the working class. PLP has grown as several workers and students involved in fighting for justice for victims of police murders have joined the fight for communist revolution.

Fertile Ground for Revolution

Charlotte and Tulsa join Baton Rouge, Baltimore, Ferguson and the Flatbush neighborhood as a site of militant resistance. This learning and inspiration and fight back is part of a long history. It is what gives Progressive Labor Party the confidence that we can and will make a revolutionary change for communism.

Communism means a system run by workers, in the interest of the whole international working class, not for the profit of a few billionaires. Communism means smashing racism and sexism because all of humanity will need to work together to run society, unlike capitalism, which needs these ideologies to divide us so we don't unite to smash their profit system.

Although communism may still be a long way off, building confidence in the working class brings us a step closer to our revolutionary goal. Inspired by the rebellion in Charlotte, a young black woman volunteered to give her first speech ever on a bullhorn. A passerby asked to sing a song he had written about the need to unite Black and white against racism. When the working class fights back like they have in Charlotte and Tulsa this past week, and more workers strive to help give communist leadership to these struggles, there will be more opportunities to build the revolutionary communist movement that will smash capitalism once and for all.✪

JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL FIGHT FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

★EDITORIAL
U.S. Terrorism Still Reigns Supreme
page 2

★CHICAGO
100 Protesters Defy KKKops
page 3

★HAITI
Comrades Break Electoral Ideology
page 4

★COLOMBIA
Int'l School Study Communism
page 5

★ALBANY
Locked-Out Workers Rally vs. Honeywell
page 5

★ELECTIONS
Two Faces of Racism
page 8

OUR FIGHT

★Progressive Labor Party (PLP) fights to destroy capitalism and the dictatorship of the capitalist class. We organize workers, soldiers and youth into a revolutionary movement for communism.

★ the dictatorship of the working class — communism — can provide a lasting solution to the disaster that is today's world for billions of people. This cannot be done through electoral politics, but requires a revolutionary movement and a mass Red Army led by PLP.

★Worldwide capitalism, in its relentless drive for profit, inevitably leads to war, fascism, poverty, disease, starvation and environmental destruction. The capitalist class, through its state power — governments, armies, police, schools and culture — maintains a dictatorship over the world's workers. The capitalist dictatorship supports, and is supported by, the anti-working-class ideologies of racism, sexism, nationalism, individualism and religion.

★While the bosses and their mouthpieces claim "communism is dead," capitalism is the real failure for billions worldwide. Capitalism returned to Russia and China because socialism retained many aspects of the profit system, like wages and privileges. Russia and China did not establish communism.

★Communism means working collectively to build a worker-run society. We will abolish work for wages, money and profits. While capitalism needs unemployment, communism needs everyone to contribute and share in society's benefits and burdens.

★Communism means abolishing racism and the concept of "race." Capitalism uses racism to super-exploit Black, Latin, Asian and indigenous workers, and to divide the entire working class.

★Communism means abolishing the special oppression of women — sexism — and divisive gender roles created by the class society.

★Communism means abolishing nations and nationalism. One international working class, one world, one Party.

★Communism means that the minds of millions of workers must become free from religion's false promises, unscientific thinking and poisonous ideology. Communism will triumph when the masses of workers can use the science of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and change the world to meet their needs and aspirations.

★Communism means the Party leads every aspect of society. For this to work, millions of workers — eventually everyone — must become communist organizers. Join Us!

CONTACT US

Email
desafio.challenge@gmail.com
Mail
Box 808 GPO, Brooklyn, NY 11202
Internet
www.plp.org
challengenewspaper.wordpress.com

WHO WRITES FOR CHALLENGE?

The fact that CHALLENGE/PLP articles are not signed grows from PLP's criticism of the cult of the individual in the former socialist Soviet Union and China. We do not want to encourage the possibility of building up a "following" around any particular individual.

While an article may be written by one person, the final version is based on collective discussion and criticism. Many times this collective discussion even precedes an individual's writing of an article.

CHALLENGE/DESAFIO (ISSN 0009-1049) published bi-weekly by Challenge Periodicals. 1 issue $1. One Year: $20. Six months: $15. Send address changes to CHALLENGE Periodicals, GPO Box 808 Brooklyn, NY 11202, October 12, 2016. Volume 48, No. 20

Editorial

Manhattan, NJ Bombs

U.S. Terrorism Still Reigns Supreme

The September 17 bombing in New York City left 31 wounded, and the working class, especially Muslim workers, terrorized. While the capitalists' cops apprehended the alleged bomb-maker, the biggest terrorist—U.S. imperialism—remains at large.

Media + Arms = Fascist Drill

At 7:54 a.m. Monday, September 19, every phone in New York went off to signal an alert by the New York Police Department: "WANTED: Ahmad Khan Rahami, 28-year-old male. See media for pic. Call 9-1-1 if seen." The description fit hundreds of thousands of men. Mayor Bill de Blasio seized the chance to use the local population as an extension of the racist police force—to put the bosses' "see something, say something" slogan into practice. That day, the police received 406 calls on "suspicious packages," none of which turned out to be explosives.

Normalizing collaboration with the NYPD, the largest state terrorist force in the world, is a great danger for the international working class. This is the same police force that has been spying on Muslim students and workers wherever they hang out—colleges, mosques, community centers, restaurants. It's the same NYPD that routinely terrorizes Black and Latin working-class men and women. But this latest attack by our common enemy can also be an opportunity for Muslim, Arab, and South Asian workers to unite with Black and Latin workers.

Following their 9/11 model, the bosses respond to terrorist acts (or purported terrorist acts) with heightened fascism. They mobilize anti-terrorist police units, SWAT teams and the FBI. They militarize U.S. cities, from Ferguson to New York to Charlotte. In Chelsea, the Joint Terrorism Task Force, Homeland Security, the FBI and other gangs of government thugs all descended on the bomb site.

As they move to pacify the working class with guns and tanks, the bosses also use their news machine. The New York Post wrote an outright racist piece that claimed that terrorism ran in Rahami's family (9/24). (In the 1980s, Rahami's father fought with the Mujahideen, the Islamic "freedom fighters" funded by the CIA in their war against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan.) Every minute of the day, every day of the year, the network and cable news channels create more terror by spitting vile bigotry about Muslim and Arab workers, the front line of their war to divide us.

Racist crime against Muslim workers is at its highest since 9/11: "New data from researchers at California State University, San Bernardino, found that hate crimes against American Muslims were up 78 percent over the course of 2015 (New York Times, 9/17). According to the same report, anti-Arab hate crimes rose by 219 percent. The epidemic of individual violence stems from the systematic racist violence perpetuated by the capitalist U.S. government, police and military.

These abuses and atrocities are all part of the capitalists' drill for war. Breeding anti-Muslim racism enables the ruling class to build the patriotism it will ultimately need to butcher Muslim and Arab workers throughout the Middle East.

U.S. State Terrorists: Mass Murders by the Day

While the recent bombings in New York and New Jersey were indeed cowardly acts against innocent workers, we must not forget that thousands are murdered by capitalist state terror every day. The finance capitalists of the U.S. ruling class are the world's biggest terrorists, by far. With one hand, they sign "peace treaties"; with the other, they drop another cluster of bombs on civilians. During World War II, U.S. imperialists killed hundreds of thousands with the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. Today, when U.S. bosses aren't bombing hospitals in Afghanistan, they are wiping out whole families with reckless drone strikes across Yemen, Iraq, Pakistan and Somalia. Nearly half a million have been slaughtered in the proxy war in Syria (Frontline, 2/11), and more than 4.8 million displaced (Syianrefugees.eu).

On their home front, the bosses are shattering the lives of millions with mass racist incarceration, deportation and unemployment. To divert attention from their own monstrous crimes, they are exploiting fears of ISIS and Al Qaeda to provoke anti-Muslim racism and divide workers against one another.

At stake is the immense oil wealth of the Middle East. The imperialists in Russia and China want to control this cheaply extracted oil themselves; U.S. and European capitalists will stop at nothing to secure it.

As the great Soviet communist leader Vladimir Lenin pointed out, imperialist rivalries can be resolved only by war. No matter how many remote-control drones they have on military bases, the bosses know they will need real-live soldiers to fight for and hold oil-rich territory in the Middle East. Their problem is that they haven't been able to win the workers to support this bloody mission. Nor can the U.S. capitalists control their so-called allies, including Turkey and Iraq.

The Progressive Labor Party must organize workers to stop imperialist war by fighting to smash capitalism and build a communist society. Under communism, workers will supply their own needs without bosses or money. They will construct a world free of terrorism, racism and sexism.

Fight Through the Dark Night

While it is true that we remain—for now—in the dark night of unchecked imperialist horrors, with no mass workers' movement to challenge them, the international working class is stirring. The bosses' ideological control—the crucial element for their continued dominance—is visibly shaky. When the working class rebels as it did in Charlotte, against yet another murder of a young Black man, it hurts U.S. imperialism. If multiracial rebellions were detonated across the United States, with the bold leadership we saw two years ago in Ferguson, they would seriously hinder U.S. war plans. Throughout the world, workers are fighting back. From solidarity marches in New York and Chicago to strikes in India, France and Spain, workers are raising their level of struggle against the capitalists.

One Red Flag

With red leadership, these protests eventually will move to a more conscious level. As we know from practice, every protest deepens workers' understanding of the world as it truly exists. The anti-racist movement alive in the streets today is preparing our class to face fascism and world war—the potential levers for revolution. Led by communist ideas, the workers' revolution will smash the capitalists wherever they now stand, from Ferguson to Charlotte, from India and Patagonia to Africa and China.

Only communism can forever cure the lethal disease that capitalism has inflicted upon the working class: racism. Under communism, workers will have no need to fight over natural resources. There will be no "ours" and "theirs." All resources will be shared, according to need. The state terrorists of capitalism will be eliminated for all time. ✪

Down with FOP

100 Protesters Defy KKKops

CHICAGO, September 20—An antiracist rally at the Fraternal Order of Police's (FOP) turned into a militant march, resulting in one arrest, and a toughening up of antiracist fighters. Over 100multi-racial, multi-gendered, multi-generational workers began with a protest at the FOP's general union meeting.

"How do you spell racist? F.O.P!"

The day was sunny and beautiful, much like the workers who showed up to protest together. The demo began with poster making and mingling and then had a press conference with multiple groups speaking about why they were there. A Progressive Labor Party speaker tied the fight against racist police violence in Chicago directly to capitalism. He also spoke about inspirational international fightback, and ended with calling for a communist revolution. His words were met with cheers and encouraging shouts. The last speaker gave an impassioned reading of the #neverforget coalition's demands and got everyone turned up to march.

The protesters marched two blocks to the FOP union hall while a parade of cops on bikes pushing us to the sidewalk. They rallied in front of the FOP building, chanting and then hearing speakers from different groups. The mother of Stephon Watts gave a powerful testimonial about her experience with lying, racist police. Stephon was a 15-year-old autistic teen murdered by the kkkops in 2012. The Party had organized fightback around it.

KKKops' Dirty Tactics

Rather than going home after, they decided to take the streets! The police used their bikes to push us back the sidewalk. The crowd turned right, evading them, and marched a block up and over to the park so they could march in the street. The police frantically ran to the front of the march with their bikes, attempting to block off the whole street. They were too slow. The cops used their bikes as weapons and even hit Stephon's mother. As other protesters came to her aid, the police grabbed one young man to arrest him and multiple cops took him down. As they rescue the comrade, multiple scuffles broke out but no one else was arrested.

The march concluded at the park, but we were down one working-class brother. A decision was made to go to the police station where they were holding the protester. It was important to show solidarity. The state's attorney charged him with felony of aggravated battery and resisting arrest. They set bail at $100,000.

> The message will be clear to the prosecutors, cops, and bosses: they cannot stop working-class fightback.

We have been trying to fundraise for his bail. He was finally let out of jail 48 hours later. These tactics from the bosses' police and courts are meant to intimidate us and keep us from speaking out or continuing to protest. But they will fail! The workers and you here will use this new attack from the ruling class to build more support for this young man and destroy this racist system. We will show up to support him, Black and white workers united. The message will be clear to the prosecutors, cops, and bosses: they can't stop working-class fightback.

Organization Lead to More Confidence

In June, PLP had organized a protest in front of killer cop Jason Van Dyke's house at 6015 S. Normandy Ave., Chicago IL, 60638. After helping planning a mass committee with various community organizers to organize a follow up protest, PLP returned to their mass organizations to build the action. We did outreach in working-class neighborhoods on the south and west sides. We struggled with each other over possibly getting arrested. We showed our commitment to the action and to our working-class brothers and sisters by participating fully in the planning. We learned some lessons about organizing, such as the limits of conference calls and the importance of face-to-face planning and struggle.

What's the FOP?

When Jason Van Dykkke murdered Laquan McDonald and was fired and charged with murder, the FOP hired him to work in the union hall.

The FOP acts as a police union and ensures that cops continue their racist terror in our communities. The FOP writes into their contract with the City that they have special protections in terms of being questioned after committing a crime while on the job. They also denounce all police reforms. They support a "Blue Lives Matter" law in Chicago that will enable the government to prosecute protesters who interact with police with a hate crime. Their contract also stipulates that they can destroy police disciplinary record after five years, making cop history of terror more difficult to obtain. They use coded racist language in their newsletters and endorse racist policing tactics. The national FOP has endorsed Trump for president.

With all this, it was evident that protesting at the FOP would be an important action in our ongoing struggle for communism.

Workers Deserve Communism

PLP will bring commitment and solidarity to every working-class struggle, as well as bring a political analysis that exposes capitalism. We aim to win more workers to our Party through this struggle. This is just the beginning. In order to smash capitalism once and for all, it is important that we entrench ourselves in mass organizations, and class struggle so we can meet more workers but also develop a communist culture with our comrades and friends. Communism is the only path to liberation for working-class people, not "friendly capitalism" or "nationalism" of any kind. We are building a working class army to take power, and set up a world free of kkkops, and exploitation. We need all hands on deck, to build the Party in order to fight for a communist world. From Chicago to Charlotte to Kinshasa, the Congo, workers of the world unite!✪

Haiti Comrades Break Electoral Ideology

HAITI, September 10—Revolutionary struggles worldwide are encountering major challenges, specifically the illusions and false promises made by bourgeois politicians. In Haiti, in every election, activists who call themselves "left" or "revolutionary" and sometimes even "communist," in fact have joined the ranks of these phony misleaders.

In the last century, the U.S. bosses' occupation of Haiti brought mass racist terror to workers here. Per Herbert Seligman, writing for The Nation in 1920, said, "Military camps have been built throughout the island. The property of natives has been taken for military use. Haitians carrying a gun were for a time shot at sight. Many Haitians not carrying guns were also shot at sight." Not only does Haiti's extreme poverty stem from this occupation, but sexism also pervades working-class lives. A report from the Office of Internal Oversight Services found that U.N. "peacekeepers" have been sexually abusing young women and minors for years!

Politicians Penetrate Revolutionary Struggle

Today, local politicians try co-opting left-leaning workers still not won to communist struggle. This often leads the masses to become cynical and lose confidence in the words and actions of genuine revolutionary leaders. In turn, the bourgeois politicians use the leaders to gain the trust of the masses and maintain power.

The communist PLP fights this trend and combats these revisionist (phony leftist) and reactionary practices. PLP fights for an international communist party to take power by revolution, not by compromise and alliances (for crumbs) with the bosses' puppets.

Election and Individualist Illusions

In the 2015 parliamentary elections, one of our comrades fell victim to bourgeois politicians. He believed he could co-opt the electoral process to help fellow workers and strengthen the class struggle. He tried convincing the Party his individualism was best. But he knows very well that PLP never collaborates with the bosses in any way, shape or form! Power is not a cake to divvy up! Rather, our aim is to organize the working class by working within mass organizations, putting forward our mass line of struggle against racism and sexism, exposing capitalism and imperialism, engaging in actions and ideological struggle, and finally winning workers and students to our revolutionary communist line, to smash capitalism by establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Lessons from the International Working Class

All the PLP comrades in Haiti were united in saying a clear NO to this comrade's proposal. However, we will continue discussing places, such as Venezuela, Bolivia and others, where the so-called "left" took power through elections, and failed — nor did they aim — to transform the bosses' electoral power into communist revolutionary power. By studying the lessons from the international working class, we can see that nothing short of a revolution will gain power for our class. Our Party is a revolutionary communist organization and will not make concessions to the bosses. We will fight to win the hearts and minds of workers, to get them en masse to join and lead our Party and win them to communist revolution. We know that the bosses' elections are a farce, a game of compromise to trap the masses into supporting the bourgeois state.

Short-lived Campaign, Long Live PLP

Our Party has not followed this comrade's wrong line. Now he seems to understand he was deceived by those who sought him out: the same bourgeois party that endorsed him for the elections financed his opponent's campaign! He even says he understands the bold and criminal game bourgeois politicians play. Unfortunately he advocated for small advantages, which are not — and won't be — easily satisfied, since the bosses will not readily allow a new head at the table without such a head being shaped in their own image. By staying true to our principles and refusing to follow the former comrade, the Party emerged the winner and strengthened our line.

Build the Party

Following this logic, our PLP'ers have some influence among revolutionary-leaning comrades in a student organization, in part by putting them on guard to avoid falling into the same trap as our former comrade. One of the presidential candidates in next October's election has just written a letter trying to woo this student organization — one founded by several PLP members — asking it to discuss the country's situation in the pre-election period. Obviously he wants to make promises and offer immediate benefits for the organization's support. But this is just another illusion!

Again, PLP members have adopted a position consistent with our ideas and have won the student organization to it: no meeting and/or alliance with bourgeois politicians, no matter what their promises. We have seen that history records that alliances between left-wing parties and the bourgeois state and its politicians in the elections has only reinforced the capitalist state. PLP built its base among the masses — university and high school students, rural workers, teachers and the unemployed — over the course of several years, fighting side by side in the streets and engaging in ideological struggle.

Ultimately communism will be victorious, if we fight for our revolutionary line, if we are present giving leadership in the mobilizations against the evils of capitalism. We create confidence among the masses and build our base in the working class, building our international revolutionary Party little by little.

No compromise with bourgeois politicians and their state. Long live revolution and the PLP!✪

Students, Teachers Rally vs. Racist Murders

BROOKLYN, September 22—"Can I have a sheet of those stickers Miss? I want to help give them out" That 's what we heard from at least a dozen students Thursday morning as we handed out anti-racist stickers to wear at a local high school. Some students and teachers also made a plan to hold a rally after school in response to the rash of racist police killings this last week. To abolish racism and build a better world, we must fight back!

At lunchtime, teachers and students gathered to make signs for the rally after school. As we searched for slogans on the Internet, we came across a website that tracked the amount of police killings in the U.S. There were 13 in the last 6 days! This led to a discussion where students pointed out that it's not just a few bad cops, but the whole system that is racist. We were outraged at the murders of Keith Lamont Scott in North Carolina, Terrence Crutcher in Oklahoma and 13 year old, Tyre King in Ohio. But these racist killings expose a capitalist system that is a daily horror for billions of people around the world. And life will get even worse as competing capitalists around the world bring us ever closer to world war.

Learning to Fight, Fighting to Learn

So it's more important than ever to fight back and not just go on with business as usual. Even if one rally, or wearing a sticker will not stop innocent people from being killed at the hands of the police, these small acts help to raise everyone's consciousness. When others see people fighting back, they think about the racist inequality in our world. That has an impact on people even if we don't see it immediately.

In some English classes, students made posters for the rally as part of the lesson. In those classes they have been reading the biography of Malcolm X and discussing the fight against racism during the Civil Rights Movement. In U.S. history classes, all students received a copy of CHALLENGE as we discussed these racist killings in

Continued on page 7

Challenge as Organizing Tool

Int'l School Study Communism

COLOMBIA—A PLP international school was held in Bogota recently; participants included comrades, sympathizers, friends of PL and CHALLENGE readers from the U.S. and Colombia. Comrades from the Central Committee gave an important and motivating report showing how PLP is present with our newspaper CHALLENGE in revolutionary struggles worldwide: Haiti, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Algeria and Mexico among 27 countries internationally.

What stood out clearly is that the Party's ideas are solid and dialectical. We all agreed that the principle contradiction in the world now is inter-imperialist rivalry and that workers should not support any gang of rulers. Nationalism, revisionism (phony leftism), and reformist ideas are a danger for the working class since they divide and pacify us with their aim to try to "improve" capitalism and its social inequities—an impossible task.

We also agreed with the report and situational analysis by the Colombian comrades, which cited the current capitalist crisis as creating a rise in fascism, racism, war, the super-exploitation of labor and the plunder of the world's natural resources, leaving workers in misery and desolation. We also analyzed the state of the international proletariat, pointing out that we should continue advancing our work and the study of our communist ideas.

One disagreement arose when a friend defended socialism as a necessary step toward communism. This led to a small debate that clarified the Party's line on why we fight directly for communism, an aim that has always been the historical goal of the working class. We must also note the important political advances made by the young workers who analyzed the current situation, spoke about their own political activity, and contributed by translating into Spanish the reports given by our North American comrades.

We finished by evaluating the school with our Party comrades, which inspired us to continue working and fighting for communism. We all have the task of building our Party and developing new clubs and study groups. We all must write for CHALLENGE and distribute more copies among our friends and family members to expand our social base with communist ideas.

A comradely hug from our friends and readers. Many thanks and hope for success in the important job of informing the working class.✪

Locked-Out Workers

Rally vs. War-Maker Honeywell

ALBANY, NY, September 21—Today, about 100 members and supporters of the United Auto Workers (UAW) blocked traffic outside the Federal Building to support the 359 UAW members locked out by Honeywell since May 9. Honeywell is a major war contractor which manufactures brakes for military and commercial aircraft at two plants. UAW Local 9 in South Bend, Indiana, has 317 workers. UAW Local 1508 here in Green Island, New York, has 42 members and services the South Bend plant. Building solidarity with these workers is a key task for the communist Progressive Labor Party.

Honeywell is a crucial part of U.S. imperialism's industrial complex. PLP fights for better working conditions for the Honeywell workers, while organizing for communist revolution to smash the capitalist system that exploits them as they build the weapons for future imperialist wars.

Today, scabs from the notorious union-busting Strom Engineering are running both the Green Island and South Bend plants. The Green Island plant is working two 12-hour shifts, sometimes six days a week! After picketing the plant early this morning, the workers joined the rally at the Federal Building, demanding — while the lockout continues — that the Obama Administration reverse its decision to extend an $18.3 million contract. From the Federal Building, workers took to the streets and blocked traffic for about 45 minutes before marching to the State Capitol building.

Honeywell: War-maker, Strikebreaker

Honeywell is a company known to most U.S. workers for its thermostat temperature-control devices found in many buildings. Most workers may not know that in addition to thermostats and brake parts for aircraft, Honeywell also manufactures missiles and drones, and is part of a consortium that assembles the nuclear bombs in U.S. imperialism's arsenal.

Its role as war-maker dovetails with its actions as a strikebreaker. Despite more than $4 billion in government contracts last year, Honeywell locked out the workers after they rejected a contract that would double healthcare premiums for a family of four, and add a $1,400 deductible. After these premiums would be deducted from their paychecks, some workers would be taking home less than $15 an hour.

Honeywell also wants to unilaterally increase healthcare costs in each year of the contract, outsource work to non-union sites and eliminate job classifications and end pensions. Clearly, this "offer" was intended to force the workers out and break the union.

Honeywell CEO Dave Cote, who has a personal retirement package worth $800,000/month, is no stranger to the Obama Administration. He served on the Deficit Commission and in 2010, he flew on Air Force One on an official trip to India, while 250 Honeywell uranium workers, members of the United Steelworkers, were locked out in Metropolis, Illinois.

This is the fourth time Honeywell has locked out its workers since 2010 — the uranium workers that year and again in 2014, and 840 workers, members of the International Association of Machinists (IAM), in Kansas City in 2011. In 2010, Honeywell threatened to use federal troops to break a Steelworkers strike in Florida.

Fight UAW Mis-leadership, Build Solidarity!

PLP supports the rank-and-file workers fighting for their jobs. Rather than using this action to mobilize thousands of workers to surround the plant and stop the scabs, the UAW mis-leadership used it as a platform for a dozen politicians and labor officials to blow hot air at the workers. After four months, the President of the New York State AFL-CIO told the workers, "You are not alone. The 2.2 million members of the AFL-CIO are with you." Yet he was there by himself! And any talk of mass militant action at the plant, against the scabs, is countered by, "We can't do anything that will bring an injunction against the local." But with the plant still working around the clock making

Continued on page 7

LETTERS

We encourage all CHALLENGE readers to send in letters and articles about their experiences fighting the bosses worldwide.

Playing Out Tenant Rebellion

I'm a PLP member working in a community organization in New York City. The organization is fighting high rents, landlord harassment and evictions in our neighborhood. Last spring, tenants from a coalition of housing groups demonstrated at the Rent Guidelines Board, a City group that decides the annual amount of rent increases allowed for landlords for rent stabilized apartments. Knowing that tenants can't pay the rents, which are between 50 and 80 percent of a families' income, and facing loud, angry protestors the Board decided on a zero percent increase for a one-year lease, and two percent for a two-year lease. Tenants were demanding a rent rollback.

Now the landlords are in court saying the Board's action was unconstitutional. The landlords complained that the Board not only considered just the tenants' point of view and but also that dealing with high rents is not the Board's mandate. In the organization's regular meeting, the organizer suggested we roleplay to understand this issue. In our group, I was the landlord and five other people were tenants. I began, "Listen, I'm a great landlord. I take care of my buildings and have all the records of my expenses here. I deserve a rent increase."

A tenant threw a toy rat at me. I threw it back. They started to yell about repairs, harassment, discrimination and my profits. It was like a "little rebellion." I said, "You people just don't get it. I'm the landlord. I have the power and the money. The system belongs to me. It's not my fault you don't have jobs and good wages. It's your problem. And look in my pocket. Here are all the corrupt politicians."

The tenants started yelling and fighting back. "Forget the landlords," I finally said. "I want to be with you. We hugged each other.

Many of the workers in this committee know I'm a communist in PLP. After the meeting, I distributed 17 CHALLENGEs and invited my close friends to PLP's next study group. Slow and steady, but with energy and conviction. What we do counts!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BBQ Talk: No Privilege for Working Class

PLP members in the Bay Area organized a Smash Sexism BBQ and movie screening as a follow up to our protest against the release of rapist Brock Turner. Members had done a successful CHALLENGE sale at a local university, and 4 students we met that day came to the BBQ. Out of the 37 people who came out on Saturday, 31 were under the age of 35. This was a major accomplishment, with so many young people interested in the Party's ideas.

During the conversation after the film screening we were able to struggle with our members and friends who were pushing more of a feminist line on sexism. The topic of "male privilege" came up a few times, and the member leading the discussion was quick to put forward the Party's line. She argued that sexism is a tool used by the bosses, like racism, to divide workers from fighting back together against the bosses. She also recognized that while women are disproportionately oppressed and exploited under sexism, we know that men are also brutalized and dehumanized under this system. The entire working class is weakened by sexism. In order to smash sexism once and for all we must unite as comrades in the fight for communism, and for a society based on egalitarianism.

During the car ride home, three students who are new to the Party talked about how rare it is for them to be able to have such difficult conversations with people. They were happy that they participated. They even began questioning some of their previous beliefs about identity politics that were rooted in the concept of "white privilege." The many young people that turned out for this PLP event shows us that they understand that capitalism is not working, and that in order to fight for the communist world we want the working class must be united and organized. We are fighting to build a red army to destroy capitalism and the sexist ideology that it feeds off of. This BBQ showed us the potential for building for such a fight here in the Bay Area.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Anti-Muslim Profiling at Labor Parade

At New York City's Labor Parade on September 10, a young Turkish national living in NYC approached who he thought was a parade official and asked where he could find his union. The "official" checked his clipboard and said that his union had already passed.

The "official" then began to question the young worker, asking him what he does for a living and asking for various forms of identification. He eventually waved over two cops who recorded the worker's contact information.

Later that evening, two cops showed up his apartment. One of them identified himself as from the NYPD counter-terrorism division. They asked if they could take his picture, a picture of his passport, and look at his FB page, all of which he declined. And this was a week before the recent bombings in Manhattan and New Jersey!

There is no question that the only reason this happened is because the young marcher looked Middle Eastern, or more precisely, Muslim. The young man's union raised this with the Central Labor Council. They investigated and said that they had no marshals in the area of the incident, and believe it was likely someone on Trump's security detail, as this happened near Trump Tower.

This is what immigrants and Muslims are up against today, here and around the world. It is this type of anti-Muslim racism that the Trump campaign is using to build a mass fascist movement, whether he wins or not. And of course, the police and their counter-terror groups terrorize millions on behalf of the ruling class, no matter who sits in the White House. This young man, however, is not terrorized, and is helping us organize a forum on the situation in Turkey, and the recently failed coup.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

U.S. Elections: Two Faces of Racism

Continued from page 8

children as "super-predators" as openly racist a statement as anything Trump has uttered and a justification for the devastation caused by the new laws.

Hillary Clinton's racist statements in 1996 describing Black children as "super-predators" are as openly racist as anything Trump has uttered, and had dire consequences. Among other crimes of Bill Clinton's presidency, Hillary Clintons' overt racism dovetailed with the skyrocketing numbers of incarcerated Black youth during the 1990s that, combined with the other attacks, wreaked havoc on the working class.

> *Bill Clinton presided over the largest increase in federal and state prison inmates of any president in American history….he escalated [The War on Crime] beyond what many conservatives had imagined possible.. Human Rights Watch reported that in seven states, African Americans constituted 80 to 90 percent of all drug offenders sent to prison, even though they were no more likely than whites to use or sell illegal drugs. Prison admissions for drug offenses reached a level in 2000 for African Americans more than 26 times the level in 1983 (*The Nation 2/10/16*).*

Hillary Clinton then led the charge to drive the poorest section of the working class into abject poverty by supporting her husband's dismantling of welfare benefits, an attack that was another hugely disproportionate attack on Black workers, this time targeting single mothers and children. She bragged about her role in the onslaught, and of her service to ruling class, in the face of opposition. "I agreed that he should sign it and [I]worked hard to round up votes for its passage—though he and the legislation were roundly criticized by some liberals, advocacy groups for immigrants and most people who worked with the welfare system," (Hillary Clinton, Living History, 2003). The result of Hillary Clinton's efforts were that "By 1996, the penal budget was twice the amount that had been allocated to food stamps." (The Nation, 2/10/20016)

The New York Times is one example of the leading ruling class mouthpieces praising their servant Clinton's phony "record of service to children, women and families" (NYT Editorial, 9/25/16). Hypocritically, the exploitation of child workers in Bangladesh mentioned above is just one example of Hillary Clinton's racist attacks on the very children she claims to champion. As Secretary of State in the Obama administration, she led the effort to start the civil wars in Libya and Syria that have shattered millions of lives, especially children, women, and families, and left the Middle East in flames. The Clinton State Department-backed militia in Libya is murdering Black workers on a mass scale. " Peter Bouckaert, the emergencies director for Human Rights Watch, said there was violence throughout the uprising against black Libyans and sub-Saharan Africans in the capital, "It really is racist violence against all dark-skinned people," Bouckaert said. "This situation for Africans in Tripoli is dire."

It's Not Clinton or Trump—It's Capitalism

As the U.S. bosses' imperialist rivalry sharpens with Russian and Chinese imperialism from the devastation in Syria to the South China Sea, the threat of increased racist, sexist, and imperialist assault on the international working class increase every day. Clinton and Trump's racist campaigns to keep the working class divided mean the working class will lose no matter who wins the election. Clinton may very well defeat Trump, but this is no victory of the "lesser evil."

For the international working class, Clinton's services to the ruling class and crimes against the working class, of which this is a partial list, would just be getting started—on a bigger scale. But the bosses have a problem. Millions of workers around the world were inspired by the Black youth and workers rebelling in Ferguson, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Baton Rouge, and now Charlotte.

These rebellions against racist police terror took aim at the very capitalist system responsible for racist mass incarceration and unemployment. On the other hand, the U.S. bosses know that to keep their sagging, but heavily-armed empire, they must win masses of U.S. workers, especially Black workers and immigrants, to sacrifice for U.S. imperialism, and fight in imperialist wars against their class sisters and brothers of other bosses' countries.

PLP salutes the rebellious Black workers and youth who dare to fight back. PLP is organizing a mass movement in more than two dozen countries to spread the many flames of rebellion into a fire to burn capitalism to the ground once and for all. It is time to smash all the bosses, their politicians, and the racist system they represent, with communist revolution.✪

H.S. Protest vs. KKKops

Continued from page 4

connection with the bigger question of "What is Race?" and "Why Does Racism Exist?" Racism is the biggest tool of billionaire bosses around the world. They use it to divide the working class as they reap huge profits. We must fight racism now as we build a revolutionary movement for communism. Only under communism will we be able to finally destroy racism, sexism and all the other evils of capitalism.

Schools, like the cops, are run by the government; they are part of the "state apparatus." The cops try to control us by intimidation and terror. The schools try to brainwash us into being obedient workers who think only about ourselves. They want us to salute the flag, do as we are told, and don't rebel or think for ourselves. Yet here we have young people thinking, discussing and organizing with leadership of communist and antiracist education workers. This can be a step towards joining the lifelong battle for a better world, communism.

Student Leadership

After the end of the last class, some teachers and students headed out with the signs made earlier in the day. At first, many students were intimidated and felt unsure, but a group of senior girls gave leadership by taking signs and beginning a picket line. More students gathered, many watched as we chanted, took pictures and held up our signs. Although the rally was not as big as some in past years at this school, we were happy because some new students, teachers and staff participated. We have a planning meeting coming up for future fightbacks. The fight for communism continues, sometimes one small step at a time. Join us!✪

Honeywell Workers

Continued from page 5

profits, what more harm could an injunction do?

The UAW misleaders are also trying to build patriotism to mislead this struggle, saying, "Our military deserves better than scab parts in their fighter jets." The fighter jets Honeywell is building, along with the nuclear bombs, will be used to slaughter our working-class sisters and brothers internationally. They're part of the U.S. bosses' arsenal to remain the top-dog imperialist power versus their growing Russian and Chinese imperialist rivals.

PLP salutes the fight of the Honeywell workers against the war-making, profiteering Honeywell bosses and their servants in the UAW mis-leadership. As the Honeywell workers' Black and white sisters and brothers in Charlotte, North Carolina, fight back against racist police terror and workers in India fight in the tens of millions for better working conditions, we glimpse the potential for international working-class unity. Our class deserves communism, where factories like Green Island and South Bend assemble machines to build a communist world run by our class, instead of weapons for World War III.

That is PLP's fight—to organize the working class to smash all borders and this racist, imperialist system whose most recent genocide has cost millions of Arab workers their lives and displaced millions more, turning the Middle East into a killing field. PLP builds the international solidarity of all workers, from Green Island to Syria. Smash war-maker, strikebreaker Honeywell and its imperialist government! Fight for communism!✪

RED EYE ON THE NEWS . . .

Below are excerpts from mainstream newspapers that may be of use for our readers. Abbreviations: NYT=New York Times, GW=Guardian Weekly, LAT=Los Angeles Times

Racist violence ignored in Charlotte, N.C.

NYT, 9/24 — Since a police officer shot and killed Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, N.C.…the… Governor declared a state of emergency, and the National Guard joined police…in riot gear, making the Queen City look like a war zone….

But Charlotte's protests are not black people versus white people….The protesters are black, white and brown people crying out against police brutality and systemic violence, if we can see them through the tear gas….

…Thousands…have…demonstrated against the institutional violence in their communities.

That systemic violence, which rarely makes headlines, creates the daily traumatic stress that puts our communities on edge….the violent conditions engendered by government policy and police practice….

…No one declared a state of emergency when the city's schools were resegregated, creating a school-to-prison pipeline for thousands of poor African-American children. Few voiced outrage over the damage caused when half a million North Carolinians were denied health insurance because the Legislature refused to expand Medicaid.

When Charlotte's poor black neighborhoods were afflicted with disproportionate law enforcement during the war on drugs, condemning a whole generation to bad credit, and a lack of job opportunities,…elected representatives don't call it violence. When immigration officers raid homes and snatch undocumented children from bus stops, they don't call it violence. But all of these policies and practices do violence to the lives of thousands of Charlotte residents….

…Systemic violence threatened Mr. Scott's body long before an officer decided to use lethal force against him….

…Every person in Mr. Scott's neighborhood is subject to violence every day….

KKKops leave victims dying in the streets

NYT, 9/22 — …In Tulsa, Okla.,…video footage [showed] an officer fatally shooting an unarmed man, and then standing back rather than tending to the man's wounds… "They let him lay there two plus minutes, bleeding."

Anger at the treatment…echoed…other recent cases, mostly involving black males who died at the hands of the police. Notably, when Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old boy…was shot to death in 2014 in a park in Cleveland, officers stood around for several minutes…offering no first aid.

Bangladesh: profit from hazards killing workers

NYT, 9/11 — TONGI, BANGLADESH — A boiler explosion in a cigarette packaging factory…enveloped the five-story building in flames…killing at least 23 people….

The blaze was the latest in a series of industrial disasters over the last several years in Bangladesh. At least 50 people were injured….

…The factory makes…foil for cigarette packs for British American Tobacco and snack-food packaging for Nestlé….

Bangladesh experienced one of the worst industrial "accidents" in history when the eight-story Rana Plaza complex, which housed several garment factories, collapsed in 2013, killing more than 1,100. Five months earlier, a garment factory fire killed 112 workers….

"Experience shows…that…corporations operating in Bangladesh do not take action to protect workers' safety," said…the director of the Workers' Rights Consortium.

Racist cleansing in Georgia county

NYT Book Review, 9/15 — Early one morning in September 1912, an 18-year-old white girl…was discovered in the Georgia woods, badly beaten and barely alive….Three young black "suspects" were hanged by the state,…the other by a mob….

Stories of savage racism…were unremarkable in the Jim Crow South. What distinguishes this case…was what happened in the aftermath. Almost every single one of Forsyth's 1,098 African-Americans — prosperous and poor, literate and unlettered — was driven out of the county…. Marauding residents wielded guns, sticks of dynamite, bottles of kerosene. Then they stole everything, from farmland to tombstones.

Forsyth County remained white right through the 20th century. A black man or woman couldn't…drive through without being run out. In 1997, African-Americans numbered just 39 in a population of 75,739.

"Many in Forsyth believed that 'racial purity' was their…birthright," Patrick Phillips writes in "Blood at the Root: A Racial Cleansing in America"….

…During the 1950s and '60s, there were [even] no "colored" water fountains in the courthouse or "whites only" diners in the county seat, Cumming; there was no black population to segregate….

"Blood at the Root" is a compendium of horrors and a catalog of shame….

"The tale," he writes,…"[was] a deliberate and sustained campaign of terror…."

Mr. Phillips carefully documents…the brutal origins of Forsyth. Before its citizens drove away African-Americans, they drove away Native Americans. "It was a place where powerful whites rejected black citizenship on principle…and resented the very idea of paying for black labor…."

…"[This] kind of institutional racism…persists in…many American communities in the 21st century — from Ferguson to Charleston, Baltimore to Staten Island [N.Y.]"

$38 billion U.S. military aid to Israel

NYT, 9/14 — The United States has finalized a $38 billion package of military aid for Israel over the next 10 years, the largest of its kind ever….

The package represents a major commitment to Israel…of Mr. Obama's presidency….

The package will provide an average of $3.8 billion a year over the next decade to Israel, already the largest recipient of American aid….

Critics of Israel's policy towards the Palestinians said the United States was effectively subsidizing operations it regularly criticized.

MORE ITEMS AVAILABLE AT WWW.PLP.ORG

U.S. Elections

TWO FACES OF RACISM

The U.S. presidential election is taking racism, and racist attacks against the international working class, to new heights. As Black workers are being killed by the police on a daily basis, Clinton and Trump have continually fueled the racism behind these murders.

Capitalism has always used racism to divide the working class—from enforcing segregation between Black slaves and white indentured servants to developing pseudoscientific theories about racial superiority. Racism has taken different forms among different groups of capitalists around the world depending on their needs, but few bosses have matched the genocidal brutality of the U.S. ruling class, within U.S. borders and through imperialist wars around the world.

In this context, the U.S. presidential election is really about which candidate, Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton, stands to inherit that legacy. The revolutionary communist Progressive Labor Party aspires to inherit a different legacy – a legacy of international working class unity against racism, sexism and imperialism. PLP fights for armed revolution for the working class to take state power, and smash the capitalist class, and their racist politician representatives.

Trump: Representative of Open Racism

Trump's long history of racist attacks are first documented in 1973, when he was singled out in a court case for systematically denying apartments to Black people applying to live in his buildings. As the 2016 Republican nominee, Trump is making open racism the binding theme of his campaign by attacking Middle Eastern workers, Black workers and immigrant workers in the U.S. for the problems of capitalism that white workers are increasingly experiencing. He has encouraged his supporters to attack Black protesters at his rallies, and has accepted support from a host of openly racist Klansmen. Trump also brags regularly about his endorsements from most of the U.S.' police unions.

While Trump has millions of supporters, millions of multiracial workers and students know Trump's history and militantly oppose his open racism. More dangerously for the working class, however, is the long history of Hillary Clinton's racist attacks. While Trump has played to openly racist workers, Clinton has spent her career leading racist attacks against the working class that have destroyed millions of families with a liberal, pro-worker mask.

Clinton: The Grooming of a Professional Racist

There's a predictable upsurge in racism during every U.S. presidential election, at the least. The bosses' politicians and media foment this racism to divert the working class from uniting against capitalism. Racist cops, mass incarceration, blaming Black workers for capitalist-caused poverty, and using racism and nationalism to convince workers around the world to fight each other in imperialist wars while the capitalists reap the profits, are how politicians earn their value in the eyes of the ruling class donors. In the eyes of many U.S. bosses, Clinton has earned her value as a professional racist, whose capabilities of maintaining racist working class divisions while stoking nationalist, pro-U.S. imperialist unity are second only to Barack Obama. Her history shows us how.

Clinton frequently champions her working class upbringing in an openly anti-Semitic household. She was a teenager in the 1960s during the height of the Civil Rights movement. While hundreds of thousands of young people marched against segregation, Clinton volunteered for Republican Barry Goldwater's openly racist 1964 Presidential campaign.

While many workers have had racist upbringings that they later reject through struggle, Clinton's early racism laid the basis for bigger attacks against the working class as a high-achieving and promising tool of the U.S. capitalists. While in Arkansas she supported her husband, Bill, then Governor, who signed a law supporting the Arkansas State Flag's celebration of the Confederacy, the short-lived nation during the slaveholder's rebellion during the 1800s.

While her husband was Governor, Clinton took a position on the board of Walmart, while they launched a campaign that built racism and nationalism to sell American-made products, called "Buy American." This campaign to "Buy American" happened while Walmart hypocritically exploited slave labor wages in Asia (PBS, 11/16/04).

> *"Wal-Mart continued to get most of its products from overseas during its buy America program including from this factory in Bangladesh that used 11 and 12-year-old girls.* (Good Morning America 1/31/2008).

The Clintons Get Promoted

The Clintons ultimately proved their worth to the ruling class as racist killers during the 1992 presidential election, when Bill Clinton was down in the polls: "Clinton proved his toughness by flying back to Arkansas to oversee the execution of Ricky Ray Rector, a mentally impaired Black man who had so little conception of what was about to happen to him that he asked for the dessert from his last meal to be saved for him for later. After the execution, Clinton remarked, '[N]o one can say I'm soft on crime.'" (The Nation 2/10/16)

Bill Clinton won, and this racist execution foreshadowed the hiring of 100,000 more police officers nationwide, and his racist destruction of welfare (see below). Internationally, millions of workers in Mexico were driven off their lands by the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), as U.S. bombs rained down on the former Yugoslavia. Throughout the 1990s, when the U.S. wasn't routinely bombing workers in Iraq, workers there faced sanctions at the cost of over 500,000 children's lives. Bill Clinton's Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, later said this was "worth it."

Hillary Follows Bill, Obama's Footsteps

In 1994, Hillary Clinton campaigned for Bill Clinton's Federal Crime that wreaked havoc on the working class calling it a "smart, tough" bill that will "make a difference in police officers lives." (White House Press Secretary, 8/10/1994). She followed that up in 1996 describing Black

Continued on page 6

SUBSCRIBE or RENEW!

All the communist politics, news, and struggle from around the world!

••••$20 individual 1 year $45 for institution 1 year

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Make check or money order to:
Challenge Periodicals, PO Box 808, Brooklyn, NY 11202